DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is—

"That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 99,48,300 under Demand XLI—Capital Outlay on Civil Works."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XLIV—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON SCHEMES OF GOVERNMENT TRADING.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor, I move—

"That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,55,73,700 under Demand XLIV—Capital Outlay on Schemes of Government Trading."

DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is—

"That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,55,73,700 under Demand XLIV—Capital Outlay on Schemes of Government Trading."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XLV—LOANS AND ADVANCES BY THE STATE GOVERNMENT.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Sir, on the recommendation of the Governor, I move—

"That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,24,99,500 under Demand XLV—Loans and Advances by the State Government."

DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is—

"That the Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,24,99,500 under Demand XLV—Loans and Advances by the State Government."

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant was made

VI.—ANNOUNCEMENTS—*cont.*

(2) THE MADRAS APPROPRIATION (NO. 4) BILL, 1961.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have to announce to the House that the Governor has given his recommendation for the introduction and consideration of the Madras Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 1961 in the Madras Legislative Assembly.

VII.—GOVERNMENT BILLS—*cont.*

(2) THE MADRAS APPROPRIATION (NO. 4) BILL, 1961.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Sir, I move—

"That leave be granted for the introduction of the Madras Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 1961."

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DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is—

"That leave be granted for the introduction of the Madras Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 1961."

The motion was put and carried and leave was granted.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I introduce the Bill, Sir.

DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Bill is introduced.

(3) THE MADRAS IRRIGATION CESS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1961
(L.A. BILL NO. 17 OF 1961).

* THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to move—

"That the Madras Irrigation Cess (Amendment) Bill, 1961 (L.A. Bill No. 17 of 1961)[a] be taken into consideration."

Under the Madras Irrigation Cess Act, 1865, water-cess cannot be levied on lands classified as wet and held under ryotwari settlement unless the land is actually irrigated from a source other than the normal source of irrigation or by infringement of the normal practice of irrigation. It is not possible to levy water-cess on these wet lands even if water is supplied by Government from a fresh source of irrigation constructed at public cost if the landholders fail to avail themselves of the facility provided. Under the rules framed for projects like Mettur Canal Scheme and Lower Bhavani Project, a special provision has been made to levy water-cess on the lands included in the ayacut irrespective of whether the water is taken for irrigation or not. Such a provision is necessary in respect of other projects also so that the irrigation facilities provided by the Government at considerable cost are not wasted due to the failure of ryots to avail themselves of the facility. If water-cess is leviable on all lands included in the ayacut, it may act as an incentive for the ryots to avail themselves of the irrigation facilities. The Government propose that such a provision for the levy of water-cess on all lands included in the ayacut may be made by an amendment to the Irrigation Cess Act instead of providing for each project separately.

The Irrigation Cess Act does not lay down the principles on which the Government should levy water-cess. It is, therefore, proposed to provide in the Act the basis of prescribing the rates of water-cess leviable.

Existing section 1-B of the Act provides that all rules made under the Act shall have force as if enacted under the Act. Such a provision is considered now unnecessary and in its place it is proposed to substitute a provision for placing the rules to be made under this Act on the table of both the Houses of Legislature and giving also power to the Legislature to make any modification to the rules.

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[a] Printed in the *Fort St. George Gazette* Extra ordinary, dated 22nd March 1961.